

Autobiography Speech

Time: 3-5 minutes

Audience: Classroom of peers

Special Tasks: Self-critique and Partner Critique

The Format

I. Introduction

- A. Attention-getter
- B. Purpose of speech (To tell you a little bit about myself)
- C. Name
- D. Preview of main points (Body)

II. The Body (Note: Choose any combination of the following items.)

- A. Where you were born
- B. Some entertaining facts about you
- C. Some entertaining facts about your home town
- D. Where you live now
- E. An incident from your childhood
- F. Nicknames you've had and how they started
- G. A hobby and interesting things about it
- H. The things that interest you most in school (subjects / approaches / etc)
- I. Your hopes and dreams
- J. What you plan to do in the future
- K. What makes you unique from your classmates
- L. Your best trait(s)
- M. Why are you here?
- N. Other items???

III. Conclusion

- A. Restate purpose
- B. Restate main points
- C. Clincher
- D. Pause, look at audience, and then sit down

Hints and Tips

- ***Try to include something trivial and of human-interest about yourself
- ***Practice at home before you speak. Talk to an imaginary listener or a mirror.
- ***Is there any room for improvements? Make improvements.
- ***Try to avoid memorizing topic. Keep your mind on the FACTS you're telling, not the exact words.
- ***When you're ready to speak to the class, say to yourself, "They're my friends. I want them to know more about me, and they want to learn this as well."
- ***Think of it as a conversation with a group of friends.

Sample Outline

- I. Introduction
 - A. Attention Getter
 - B. Purpose statement
 - C. Preview of main points
- II. Body
 - A. Main point #1
 - 1. Supporting detail 1
 - 2. Supporting detail 2
 - B. Main Point #2
 - 1. Supporting detail 1
 - 2. Supporting detail 2
 - C. Main Point #3
 - 1. Supporting detail 1
 - 2. Supporting detail 2
- III. Conclusion
 - A. Summary of main points
 - B. Restate Purpose
 - C. Clincher